graphy, etc. The first is best studied in the web of a frog's foot, wing of a bat, and tail of a fish, or tadpole not too old; the second in the nitellæ, the vallisneria spiralis, the anacharis alsinastrum, and in the chara vulgaris. In the first, third, and fourth no preparation is required except plucking a part from a stem and laying it upon a slide, but the vallisneria requires to be cut in sections. The remarks on photomicrography refer only to the production of minute pictures which serve as objects for the microscope. We can only conceive these to be interesting as toys, but must admit that they alone come, strictly speaking, within the province of the "preparation and mounting" of objects. But as the photography of magnified objects has become of so much importance, and the only published directions for making them appear in English works, we should certainly have excused the author for overstepping the limits of his title, and introducing some account of them, with the method of obtaining them. It might not inappropriately be stated, in this connection, that we are aware of no published account, except what has appeared in English journals (*Intellectual Observer*, July and August, 1866, and *Quarterly Journal of Microscopic Science*, April, 1867) of the very successful efforts which have been made in this direction of microscopic inquiry, under the auspices of the Medical Department of the Army of the U. S. We confess to feeling somewhat jealous of the attention shown our transatlantic brethren by our countrymen engaged in these researches, while Americans are compelled to receive the information at second hand.

In concluding this notice of Mr. Davies' hand-book, we feel glad to say what has already been intimated, that it will prove a valuable guide to the manipulator. Yet we cannot but say of it, also, that there is an absence of systematic arrangement in its subjects treated, which does not, it is true, impair the utility of so small a book as it would a large one, but is equally objectionable in both. The value of books of this class is also greatly enhanced by illustrations, of which this little volume has none. Perhaps the description of the "universal stand," pp. 25 and 26, would be more intelligible by the aid of a diagram. As it stands, we confess our inability to form any conception of a universal stand from reading the description there given. J. T.

ART. XXIII.—*Micro-chemistry of Poisons, including their Physiological, Pathological, and Legal Relations; adapted to the Use of the Medical Jurist, Physician, and General Chemist.* By THEO. G. WORMLEY, M. D., Prof. of Chemistry and Toxicology in Starling Medical College, and of Natural Sciences in Capital University, Ohio. With seventy-eight illustrations upon steel. 8vo. pp. 668. New York: Baillière Brothers, 1867.

IN the preparation of the above work, no ordinary amount of research and experimental investigation must have been demanded, for it was necessary to gather information from every source, and to make careful inquiry in order to ascertain the character of that which is accepted or confirmed, and presented to the reader as worthy of trust and confidence. The mere compiling into an accessible form the scattered observations that are constantly accumulating on all hands merits high praise, and would alone be a boon of much value; but when, in addition to this, there is adduced in confirmation numerous careful, accurate, and well devised experiments in which the results are brought down to a specific standard not to be found elsewhere, the benefit conferred becomes fully appreciable by those who are called upon to aid justice in practical investigation. The microscope has, it is true, been latterly applied to aid in detecting the minute forms of various poisonous substances, but more especially as by Guy and Nelwig, in the results of sublimation, in both organic and inorganic substances. To this the author has added those produced by reagents in definite amount of solution, giving a precision to the results highly valuable to those who know the variations which are produced by alterations in the relations of the reacting substances. The author has accomplished his object in a manner highly creditable to his skill, both as a chemist, and microscopist, and with evidences of patience and perseverance, showing intense mental devotion, and full appreciation of the value of the results to be gained. The illustrations which accompany the text are of a remarkable character, "drawn from nature and transferred to steel by her" (the author's wife) "to whom the work is inscribed," with neatness, precision, and finish, which leaves nothing further to be desired.

It would be in vain to attempt a satisfactory analysis of this work, which is not confined to the chemistry of poisons on a small scale, but enters fully into all the relations of the subject necessary both for the expert and physician; treating of all those which by accident or design may produce fatal results. To such an extent has this been effected, that it would appear scarcely justifiable in any judicial investigation to neglect its teachings, so much having been added to the means by which these substances may be recovered from organic mixtures, and their characters distinctly defined. R. B.

ART. XXIV.—*Chemistry of the Farm and Sea, with other Familiar Chemical Essays.* By JAS. R. NICHOLS, M.D. pp. 123. Boston: A. Williams & Co., 1867.

A WELL-WRITTEN and instructive little volume, intended to inform those not versed in chemical science upon several points of general interest, in which an accurate knowledge is of great advantage, both to the farmer and general housekeeper. Divided into nine chapters each distinct in itself, it treats of the farm and such of its management as depends for success on chemico-physiological principles; of some of its products in relation to their chemical nature, transformations, and general uses, of the dwelling, in a hygienic regard as to comfort and ventilation, and points out some obscure sources of disease, which, when detected, are readily removed or avoided, such as water impregnated with the results of vegetable decomposition, or contaminated with lead from its action on the service pipes by which it is conveyed. By this slight summary of the principal subjects noticed, it will be seen that they come home to the more important interests of many, and especially of those whose train of thought lies so much outside of their course as not to be turned thereto, except by some exterior force. Some parts of this work have been presented to the public in the form of addresses, and from their genial and attractive style, with much benefit to the hearers, a benefit which should be more extensively diffused by a free dissemination of the publication among that class of readers to whom it should be most acceptable and useful. R. B.

ART. XXV.—*Eulogium upon the Life, Professional Labours, and Public Services of* JOSEPH MATHER SMITH, M. D., Late Professor of the Theory and Practice of Physic, and of Materia Medica and Clinical Medicine, in the College of Physicians and Surgeons, New York; Physician to the N. Y. Hospital; President of the Council of Hygiene of the Citizen's Association in the City of New York; President of the N. Y. Academy of Medicine, etc. etc. Delivered before the New York Academy of Medicine, Wednesday Evening, Feb. 6, 1867. By WILLIAM C. ROBERTS, M. D. Printed for Private Distribution.

THIS very neat and well deserved eulogium commemorates the private and professional worth of one who, after a life of nearly 78 years, of which some 55 were passed in the successful practice of the healing art, and in other pursuits